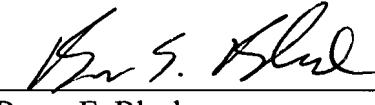


The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: February 25, 2000

  
Bruce E. Black  
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